Mapline

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The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography
at The Newberry Library

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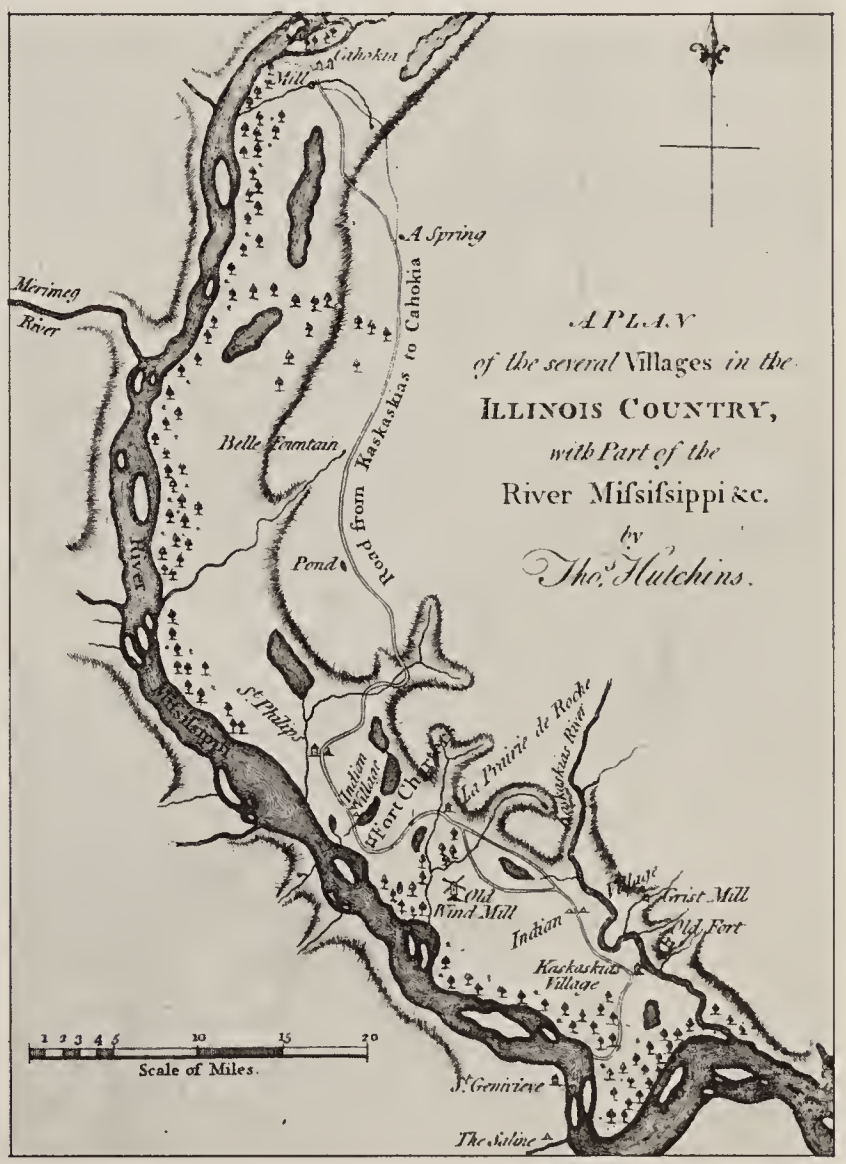
Kaskaskia and the Mississippi River

To judge from the remaining records, the eighteenth-century French colonial town of Kaskaskia (Illinois) was a quarreling, disputatious place in comparison with the other five French villages of *le Pays des Illinois*.* But Kaskaskia had a problem with the Mississippi River that other towns did not. While all the *Ancien Régime* French villages of Illinois—Cahokia, Chartres, St. Philippe, Prairie du Rocher, Kaskaskia, and St. Geneviève—were on or very near the banks of the river and suffered from flood, loss of land, and sometimes even total destruction, Kaskaskia's problem with the river was different: the Mississippi, instead of washing it away, kept *adding* land to the village.



"A Plan of the several Villages in the Illinois Country, with Part of the River Mississippi &c," by Thomas Hutchins (1778), which shows the Mississippi and Kaskaskia Rivers with Kaskaskia Village situated between them and the location of the Saline (The Newberry Library).

* This article is the result of recent close analysis of the existing original maps of French colonial Illinois, particularly those listed as sources for this article's sketch maps. It attempts to explain the relative quarrelsomeness of *Ancien Régime* Kaskaskia, compared to the other French colonial towns, and the uniqueness of some of the solutions to its particular problems. It should be noted there exist no documents that trace the actual physical developments described herein; only careful analysis of the maps and the ground itself, consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and examination of the "Kaskaskia Manuscripts" (the remaining records of French colonial Illinois in the Illinois State Archives, Springfield) made these conclusions possible.

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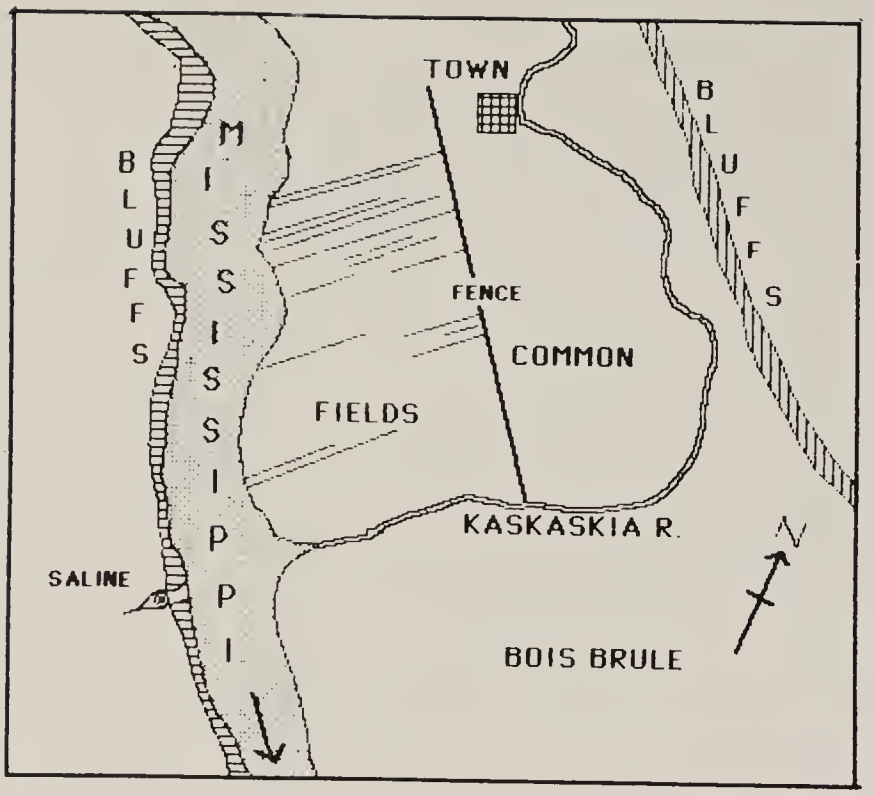
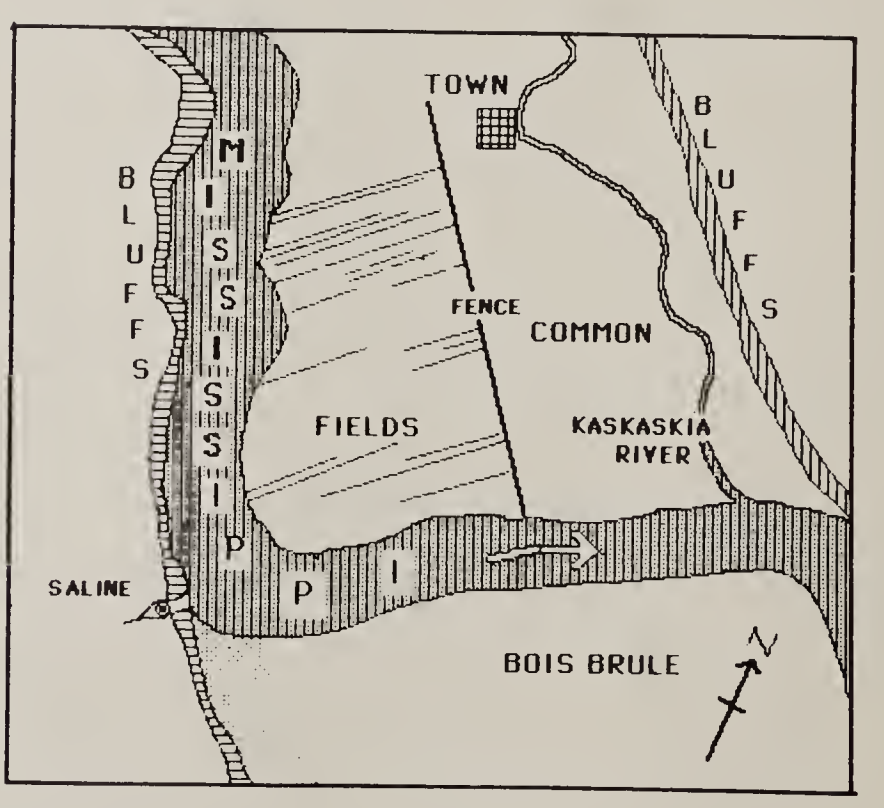
The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography was founded in 1972 at The Newberry Library to promote the study of the history of cartography through research projects, fellowships, courses of instruction, and publications. Further information about the Center is available on request from the Director, **David Buisseret**



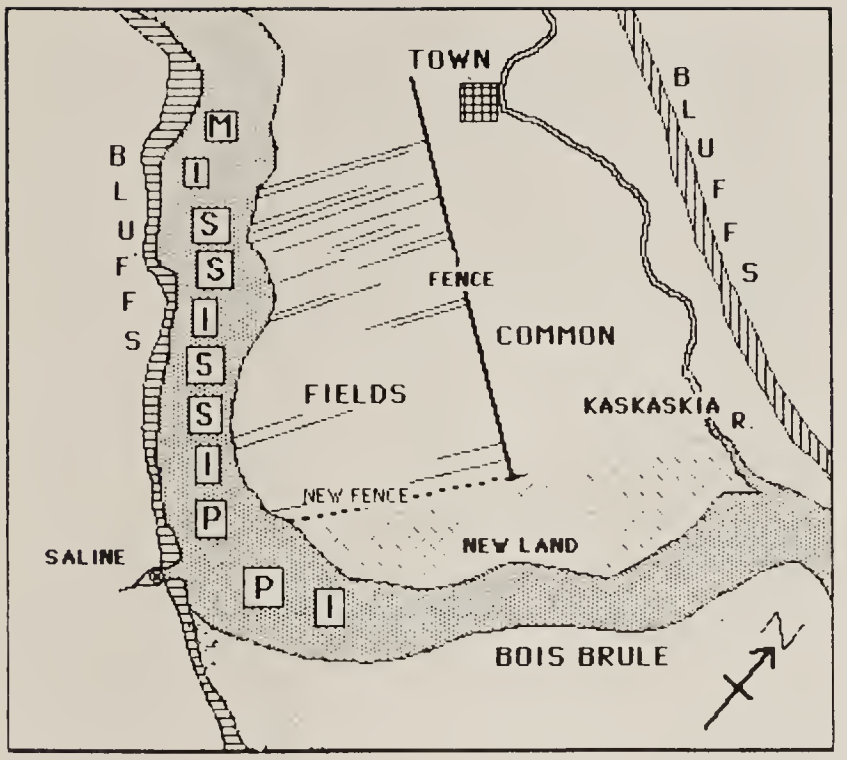
1 Sketch Map 1. Taken from "Renault Map" dated 1733 (?), original in Archives historiques de la Marine, Fort Vincennes, Vincennes, France.

What seems to have happened to Kaskaskia topographically was this: originally the Kaskaskia River flowed into the Mississippi as shown in Sketch Map 1. At that time, the Mississippi ran straight down beside the western (Missouri) bluffs. At some time, apparently in the early 1730s, the Mississippi suddenly changed course, devouring the lower end of the Kaskaskia River and, having crossed directly over the bottomlands, proceeded south beside the eastern (Illinois) bluffs, as shown in Sketch Map 2. In these conditions, as the big river swept around the end of what was now the Kaskaskia peninsula, the current sped up on the longer, downriver side, thus eating it away, while it slowed down on the shorter, upriver side next to the village fields. This slowing of the current on the upper bank allowed the river's heavy load of sediment to begin to drop, building up the end of the Kaskaskia peninsula. Meanwhile, the whole Mississippi channel slowly moved crabwise in a downriver direction. In a few years, Kaskaskia's geography roughly resembled that shown in Sketch Map 3. And that is when the trouble started.

For French and Canadian early modern village farmers the continuous *ex novo* accretion of land was a new experience. And new social experiences were not what early modern villagers relished. In a society based largely on "immemorial custom" as explicated by the local "oldest inhabitant," new experiences meant nothing but trouble. If even the "oldest inhabitant," quoting from a lifetime's lore of custom, could shed no light on a question, then, in finding a solution, the door was open to *anything!* It was open to smooth-tongued, educated members of the local gentry trying to put one over on the poor but honest villagers, or, on the other extreme, it was open to sharp, peasant-clever local types grinding their own axes at the expense of their neighbors. *Anything,* because the traditional constraint on village behavior—village custom—could not be applied to a new, noncustomary situation. This was the position of Kaskaskia village. What to do with the new land? And how to arrive at a consensus about it in the village meeting, the required technique for village solutions?



2 Sketch Map 2. Developed from the "Renault Map" and from "Carte d'une Partie du Cours du Mississippi" by Nicholas de Finiels, 1797, original in Archives historiques de la Marine.



3 Sketch Map 3. Developed from the "Finiels Map," "Kaskaskia Survey 1807," by David C. Robinson in *American State Papers* 29, Class 8 (Public Lands) Vol. 2 and the Randolph County Map in *Atlas of Illinois* (Chicago, 1876).

The villagers had no difficulty in deciding consensually that the new ground was still too soggy for wheat cultivation (wheat and flour to New Orleans were their big export items), and that the new area was best used for grazing as an addition to the commons. The problem, however, was the village fence separating the common fields from the commons.

This communal fence ran directly down the length of the peninsula, roughly in its middle. To the west of the fence were the *habitants'* strip farms, 200 or 400 foot wide strips running directly away from the fence at right angles. To the east of the fence were the original commons. Before the Mississippi decided to improve the village landholdings, village fencing was a simple matter. Each *habitant* customarily took care of that section of the village fence bordering his strip farm—a length of a couple of hundred feet. But *now* the matter was much more complicated. An additional fence had to be built, at right angles to the old fence, to pen in the animals on the new commons. And this new fence would have to cover a distance of perhaps two miles!

Who should be responsible for putting it up? Village custom required each landowner to take care of his section of fence bordering his land; the documents lead one to believe that this solution was strongly supported in the village meeting during the 1730s. However, in the present circumstances, there was a major problem: the fence would border the land of only *one* farmer, the last landholder at the bottom of the peninsula where the fence would run the entire length of his strip farm. This may possibly have been a factor in the wide support by the other landholders for the traditional solution.

Unfortunately for the backers of this idea, the farm in question appears to have been that of Antoine Bienvenu, important merchant, trader to New Orleans, and elected *syndic* (mayor) of Kaskaskia. (See the "French Claims Survey.") A man of Bienvenu's status was not likely to stand still for such treatment and shoulder the burden of two miles of village fence. The result was deadlocked village meetings in 1737, 1741, and 1746. No consensus being obtained, *M. le Commandant du Pays des Illinois* was appealed to personally for a solution—a move contrary to almost all instinctive Illinois autonomous village practice. The Commandant's responses to the last two appeals are missing, but on March 23, 1737, at least, he issued a draconian decree.

According to the documents in the Kaskaskia Manuscripts, the Commandant, Alphonse de la Buissoniere, a fine officer and gentleman, but perhaps somewhat unfamiliar with village agriculture, required the fence—all two miles of it—to be ready in three weeks, arbitrarily fixed the winter grazing period on the fields by royal edict, and ordained an incredible 100 *livres* fine for violators. On the other hand, perhaps he knew exactly what he was doing. In the few recorded cases of higher authority's intervention in Illinois village affairs, which always came at the villagers' request, there is no trace of enforcement mechanisms or sanctions. The Commandant's effect, in fact, and quite possibly in intention, was not to make the decisions but to force the village meeting to come to a consensus in the face of an unacceptable alternative. In this instance, the Kaskaskia *habitants* did soon come to an agreement. Within six weeks of the Commandant's ukase the village meeting passed a resolution, completely

ignoring the terms of the Royal Order, giving until May 10 for repairing the fence and the ending of winter grazing under pain of a five *livres* fine per violation.

In Illinois, higher authority was not supposed to decree village solutions but to convince recalcitrant villagers to agree with their fellows. Thanks to the Mississippi, however, this system did not always work. For instance, as the peninsula grew, the logical landing place for pirogues going to and from *la Saline* changed with it. Soon this landing place was relatively far from the original, customary spot. This was serious because large quantities of salt were extracted from this spring on the Missouri side of the river, brought to Kaskaskia, and used by the Illinoisans not only for their domestic use but to preserve much pork, beef, venison, and buffalo meat for their New Orleans food business. Salt itself was also exported downriver.

Thus the traffic in salt carts between the village and the landing place was considerable. As the landing place moved from its customary location so did the "salt road" to it. Soon the road was cutting across farmers' fields, until that is, it started cutting across the farm of old Louis Turpin, a man not to be trifled with. A very early settler—now become wealthy—who was a considerable landowner and Captain of the Kaskaskia Parish Militia, Turpin was not about to have salt carts bump across his wheatfield. After an apparently fruitless previous protest, he brought a formal case in the Court of the *Commanderie des Illinois* by presenting a petition signed (and "x"ed) by many village inhabitants—undoubtedly including that of whomever was the local oldest inhabitant. As a result of this litigation, the Court rapidly ordered the road returned to its "customary" route and ordered an official road easement for the purpose.

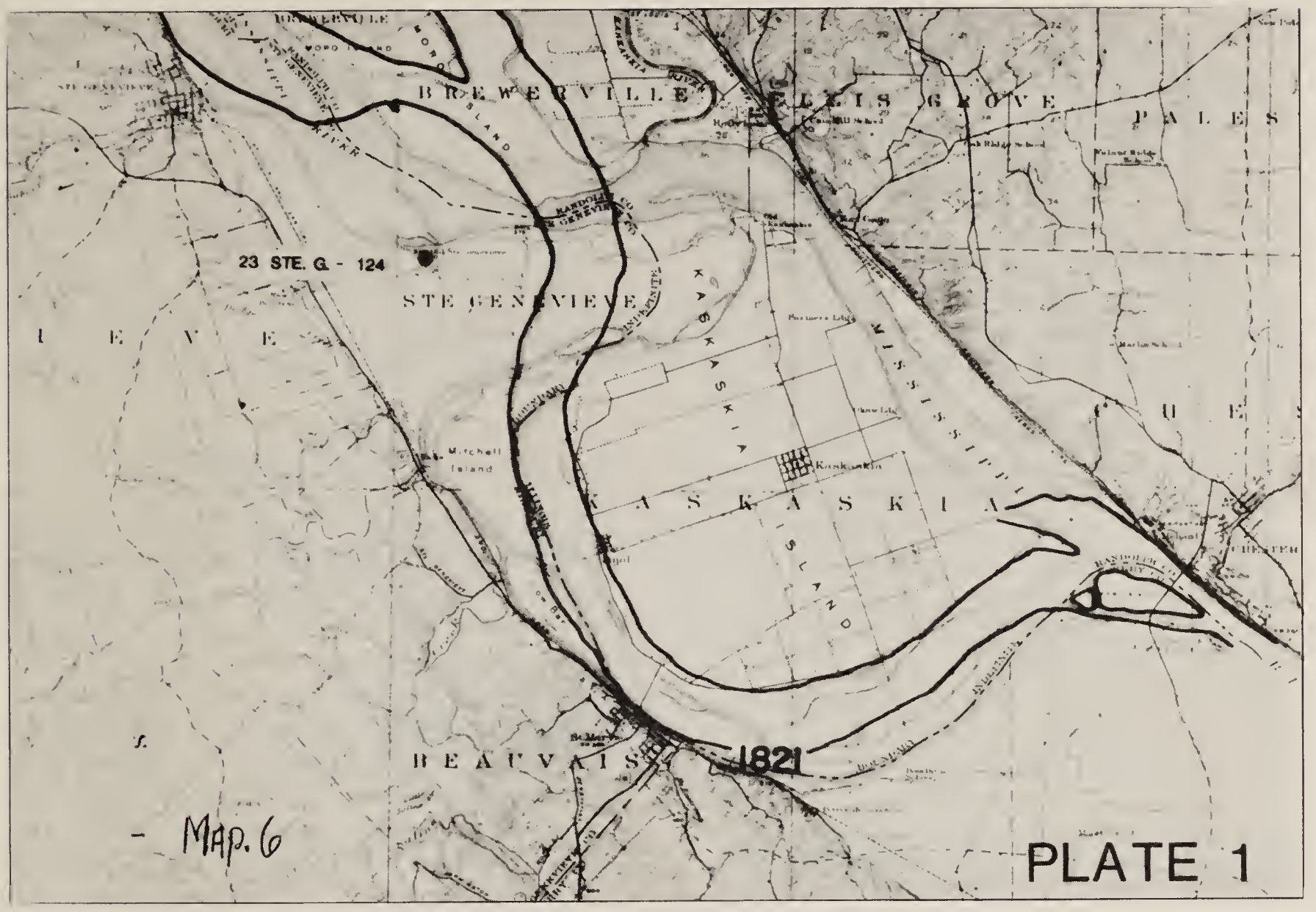
It is doubtful whether this ruling could ever have been made to stick. The "French Claims Survey" map, from a much later date, shows the landing site on the new land, far downstream from what must have been its original location. Perhaps the practical advantages of an all downstream run when one's pirogue was loaded with 3000 or 4000 pounds of salt, rather than fighting across the Mississippi current, may have been too much for either custom or Commandant.

This new land conundrum reached its apogee in 1748 when the village decided it would be wise formally to incorporate the additional area into its officially recognized commons. It petitioned the *Commanderie,* the sole authority in matters of land ownership, for formal registration of the augmented area. The Commandant, the *Gardemagasin,* and the Judge/Notary/Subdelegate—the members of the Court—appear to have been very uneasy at this request. Nowhere in the law of French America, the *Coutume de Paris,* or the "Commandant's Handbook," or whatever they used, was there any reference to dealing with land created *ex novo.* Wise bureaucrats that they were, the Illinois authorities were not about to set out in writing what might be construed as an administrative precedent. So they passed the buck.

In the best governmental traditions, they forwarded the matter to higher authority 1,200 miles away in New Orleans. Higher authority, after undoubtedly considering seriously the advisability of forwarding such a dangerous novelty to *le Ministère de la Marine* in Versailles and deciding that writing *M. le Ministre* (known in correspondence as *Votre Grandeur*) to bother him with the Kaskaskia commons was even riskier than making a decision, swallowed hard and made the decision. It is still enshrined in the Kaskaskia Manuscripts, the only document concerning land ownership in the entire Illinois records bearing the imprimatur of the Superior Council of Louisiana and the signature of both *M. le Gouverneur* and the *Commissaire Ordonnateur de la Louisiane.* Kaskaskia got, finally, official recognition of the commons' new land, extending all the way up to the *Pointe du Bois.* (The bottomlands directly across the Mississippi were called the *Bois Brulée.*)

The physical force of the irresistible Mississippi thus succeeded in thwarting the best efforts of the eighteenth-century consensual village, the thunderous orders of the Royal Commandant, and the infinite bureaucratic wisdom of the Governor and Superior Council of Louisiana. The story is almost as frustrating as that of Captain Harry Gordon of H. M. Royal Engineers. In 1765, during the British occupation, he was faced with the danger of the Mississippi washing away the river wall of Fort de Chartres, some fifteen miles above Kaskaskia. The

"U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle showing Kaskaskia now on the west bank of the Mississippi River (with the river's original course superimposed over the map).



Captain, therefore, left posterity, as recorded in his Journal—along with some highly disdainful comments about French engineering ability—precise instructions on how to stop the Mississippi. The river wall of Fort de Chartres collapsed in 1771 causing the abandonment of the fort.

In the end, of course, the Mississippi thwarted Kaskaskia completely by destroying it. Kaskaskia, first state capital of Illinois and longtime cultural center of the resident French, no longer exists. In the spring floods of 1880-81 the Mississippi, which had been slowly grinding its way toward the Kaskaskia River above the town, finally broke through and occupied the bed of the much smaller Kaskaskia. Since the smaller river could not contain the whole Mississippi, Kaskaskia town on the bank was gradually wiped out. By abandoning its former bed, the Mississippi also gave Illinois, much to its surprise, a piece of land on the west bank of the river—the now isolated fields and commons of Kaskaskia. These are now on Kaskaskia Island, separated from the rest of Illinois by the Mississippi and from Missouri by the sloughs and backwaters of the former channel. However, if you cross over these backwaters on the long bridge from St. Mary's, Missouri, and proceed on to the new hamlet which has also been named Kaskaskia, the road you travel marks the end of the original peninsula as well as the line of the troublesome new fence of the 1730s. On your right hand is the "new land," then dedicated to the expanded common; on your left, the fields of the French strip farms, and that just next to the road was once the farm of that important eighteenth-century personage, Antoine Bienvenu, landowner, merchant, downriver trader, and long-ago *bourgeois et syndic* of French colonial Kaskaskia—and a man not about to be stuck with two miles of communal fence.

Winstanley Briggs
Research Associate
The Newberry Library

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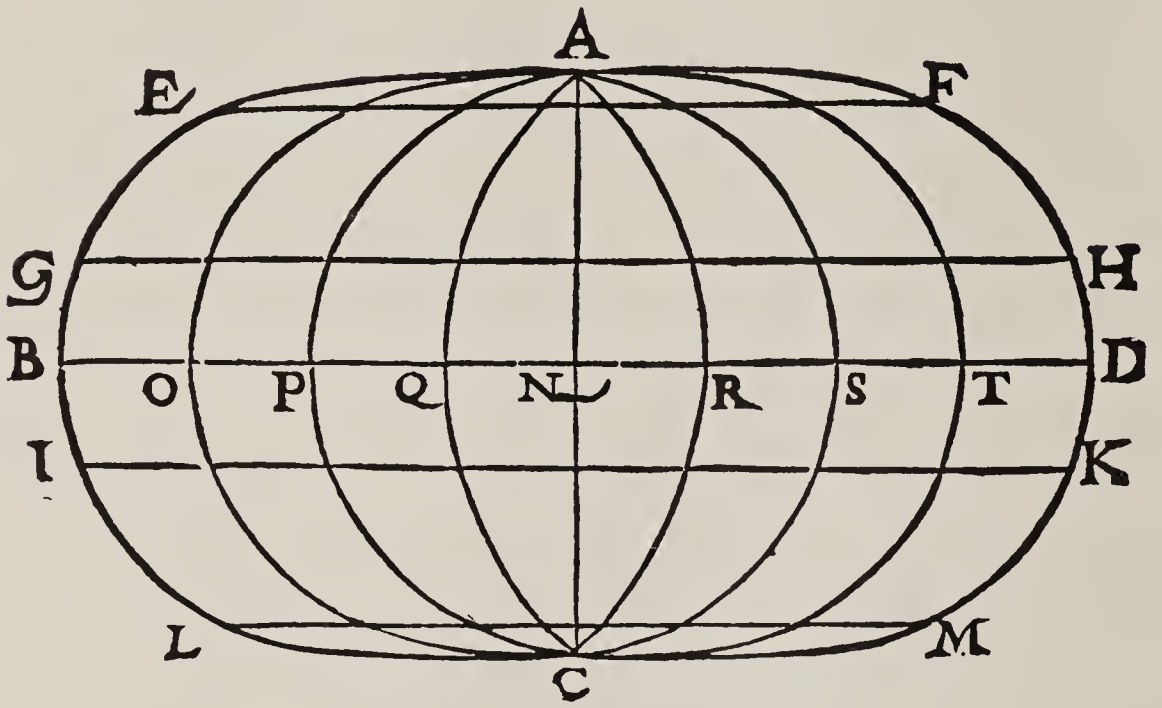
INTEGRÆ MAPPÆ CASTALDI TYPVS.



Newberry Acquisitions

Underlying and fueling the dramatic expansion of cartographic activity in western and central Europe during the sixteenth century was an equally dramatic but less talked about expansion in cartographic instruction. The Newberry prides itself on a fine collection of early mapmaking instructions and textbooks. A new addition to this resource is *De orbis catoptrici seu mapparum mundi principiis* (Paris: Laurentium Sonnium, 1598), [as in the English word *catoptric*, *catoptrici* here means *reflection of*], written by a doctor of theology and teacher at the University of Paris, Jacques Severt of Beaujeu. [Severt, whose latinized name is Severtius, should not be confused with Michael Servetus, who edited the 1535 and 1541 Lyons editions of Ptolemy's geography.] It is written in a format intended for the classroom: a proposition, such as the location of the torrid zone, is stated briefly in a form conducive to memorization; then it is defended or explained by a longer textual passage.

Severt's textbook is not renowned for any particular technical innovation, as is for example Frisius' 1529 appendix to Peter Apian's cosmography providing the first thorough explanation of triangulation. However, it is a most informative document of the way in which geography, mapmaking, and map use were taught at about the turn of the seventeenth century. And one might imagine that many of the men who in their maturity were responsible for the celebrated reforms of cartography in France pondered these pages in their youth.

De orbis catoptrici is divided into three parts: definitions and principles, description, and praxis. The second part is perhaps the most important, as it brings together for the first time descriptions of many of the most important projections developed over the previous sixty-odd years. Illustrated here is a diagram of an oval projection, which Severt attributes to Giacomo Gastaldi, who used it for his celebrated and much-copied world maps of the middle decades of the sixteenth century. (In fact, the

oval projection dates at least from Benedetto Bordone's *Isolario* published in 1528.) A projection for use in celestial mapping, a polar projection, Thevet's globular projection, Gemma Frisius' projection, and Mercator's projection are described in the same manner. Johannes Keuning observed that "no textbook [concerning map projection] is known from the XVIth or the XVIIth," [See "The History of Geographical Projections until 1600," *Imago Mundi* 12 (1960):3], but Severt's offers the best summary of the state of that art at the time of its publication.

Map Talk

. . . I don't know whose fault it was, mine, yours, or Raphael's, but we never thought of asking, and he never thought of telling us whereabouts in the New World Utopia is. . .

. . . You may wonder why no reference to Utopia appears in any geographical work, but this problem has been very neatly solved by Raphael himself. He says it's quite possible that the ancients knew of the island under another name, or else that they never heard of it at all—for nowadays countries are always being discovered which were never mentioned in the old geography books.

Excerpted from *Utopia* by Sir Thomas More (1516)

An image of the New World from "Il disegno del discoperto della nova Franza" ca. 1565 (The Newberry Library Novacco Collection).

Smith Center Announcements

New Publications

The Center has now published its most recent catalog, *Measuring A Vision, the Mapping of Chicago's Waterways.* The catalog accompanies the cartographic exhibition of the same name on display 22 May to 14 August 1988 at the Lockport Gallery in Lockport, Illinois. The maps on exhibit, and in this catalog, document the progess of canal building from the late seventeenth century in Europe through the building of the Illinois and Michigan Canal in the nineteenth century. The exhibition is being cosponsored by the Smith Center, The Illinois State Museum, Lewis University, and the Chicago Maritime Society. The catalog was compiled and edited by Maureen Flanagan and Cheryl Hahn (the exhibit's curators) with assistance from David Buisseret and John Lamb. It contains sixteen maps, each with a short commentary; all but five of the maps illustrate the building of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. This catalog may be ordered from the Smith Center for $8.00 plus $2.00 for postage and handling.

Smith Center Fellows

Anne Godlewska, Assistant Professor of Geography at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, has returned to the Newberry to finish a six-month fellowship. While in residence here, she intends to complete an article on the history of French geography and begin work on another article on the relations between Napoleon and geographers in the early nineteenth century. Along with these two projects, she also is researching an article on new approaches to the history of exploration and discovery.

Smith Center Staff

Maureen Flanagan will be leaving the Smith Center in June. She is moving to Michigan State University where she will assume a teaching position in the department of history. James Akerman, currently the library's assistant curator of maps, will become the Smith Center's Assistant Director and editor of *Mapline.*

Briefly Noted

Obituary

Jonathan Lanman, cofounder and second president of The Washington Map Society, Editor of the Society's publication, *The Portolan,* and member of the Society for the History of Discoveries, died of respiratory failure, February 22, 1988, at his home in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Lanman was a native of Columbus, Ohio and received undergraduate and medical degrees from Yale University. He had a distinguished medical career beginning with his service as a U.S. Navy medical officer during World War II. From 1960 to 1972 he was chairman of the department of pediatrics at the State University of New York's Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. From 1971 to 1976 he was professor of pediatrics at the New York University Medical Center, after which he moved to the Washington, D.C. area and served two years as director of the Center for Research for Mothers and Children at the National Institutes for Health.

Dr. Lanman's noteworthy interest in cartography began while still an undergraduate. His wartime service in Asia helped stimulate an interest in early Asian cartography. During the last quarter century he focused his attention on augmenting his collection of maps and globes and in immersing himself in the literature on the history of cartography. After his retirement from medicine, he devoted his attention to his cartographic collection and to the study, research, and writing about old maps and globes. Lanman read scholarly papers at several International Conferences on the History of Cartography, at national meetings of The Society for the History of Discoveries, and in late 1987, the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at The Newberry Library published his work, *On the Origin of Portolan Charts.* During the last several months of his life, he composed a book, *Glimpses of History from Old Maps,* relating his joy and satisfaction in collecting and studying old maps and globes.

Jonathan Lanman is survived by his wife and a daughter and son. His distinguished collection of early maps and globes will enrich the Map Library at Yale University.

Walter W. Ristow

Collection Announcements

The Bodleian Library, Oxford. The Library has acquired the Todhunter-Allen collection of more than 700 maps, atlases, and books, mainly of British eighteenth and nineteenth-century material. This is the collection previously held in the Lancashire Record Office. For information contact the Bodleian Map Librarian, Betty Fathers.

The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries, Special Collections Division. The Cartographic History Library of the Special Collections Division has been lent the Lewis and Virginia Buttery map collection. The Collection is composed of around 450 maps and charts and 40 atlases, with materials dating from 1540, and is devoted primarily to maps on Texas and the Southwest United States. For information, contact Dr. Gerald D. Saxon, Assistant Director for Special Collections, UTA Libraries, P. O. Box 19497, Arlington, TX 76019, telephone 817/273-3393.

Conferences and Exhibitions

The Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT). The Round Table of the American Library Association (ALA) has issued a call for papers for its conference to be held in Dallas, Texas, 24-29 June 1989. Papers are being solicited on the following subjects: history of cartography, cartography of the Midwest, South or Southwest, uses for microcomputers in map collections, and new technologies for map reference service. Contact the Program Chair, Mary Anne Waltz, Geography and Map Librarian, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, 13244, telephone 315/423-4176 or 423-4158.

XIV International Cartographic Conference. The organizers of the conference are seeking abstracts for papers on any of the following topics: automation in cartography, geographic information systems, uses of remote sensing in the national economy, maps for organizing and controlling agricultural and water resource management, national and regional atlases, modern education/modern maps, maps in the service of tourism, technologies of map production, poster sessions, and national/international map and technical exhibitions. The deadline for submitting abstracts is 15 August 1988. Submissions must include the original plus three copies, as well as a short biographical sketch, and should be single-spaced. Send to Professor A. Jon Kimerling, Chair,

U.S. Program Committee (ICA), Department of Geography, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331, telephone 503/754–3141. The Conference will take place in Budapest, Hungary, 17–24 August 1989, and it is anticipated that limited travel funds for those giving papers will be available.

International Coronelli Symposium. The International Coronelli Society for the Study of Globes and Instruments will sponsor a symposium in conjunction with the Institute of Cartography of the Eötvös Loránd University following the meeting of the International Cartographic Conference in Budapest, 24 to 27 August 1988. Proposals are solicited for 200-word abstracts for papers approximately 20 minutes in length on any theme related to pre-1918 globes and their makers, globe collections, and globe conservation. Abstract should indicate under which theme authors intend to present their papers. All accepted papers will be published in an issue of the Society's publication "Der Globusfreund." For further information, contact the Coronelli Society, Dominikanerbastei 21/28, A-1010 Vienna, Austria, or Professor István Klinghammer the Institute of Cartography, Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, Kun Béla Tér 2, H-1083 Budapest, Hungary.

Judah L. Magnes Museum. An exhibition titled "The Cartographer's Vision: 400 Years of Holy Land Maps" is being held at the Museum from 15 May through 11 September 1988. Among this selection of thirty-seven maps, which depict the historical development in world views from 1493 to 1870, are a 1493 "Hierosolima" from Nürnburg (considered the first printed picture of Jerusalem) and other maps from throughout Europe, many of which were originally printed in Bibles and early travel books. In conjunction with the exhibit, Rabbi Irvin Ungar, co-curator, will deliver a lecture "A Cartographic Pilgrimage through the Holy Land" on 26 June at 2 p.m. The museum is located at 2911 Russell Street, Berkeley, CA 94705, telephone 415/849–2710.

Fellowships and Awards

Internationale Coronelli-Gesellschaft für Globen und Instrumentenkunde. The International Coronelli Society for the Study of Globes and Instruments announces the Fiorini-Haardt Prize, named in honor of Professor Matteo Fiorini and Robert Haardt. The Prize, which carries a monetary award, is intended to further research into globes, especially among younger scholars, and will be given for research on pre-1945 globes. Any unpublished work completed within the three years preceding the granting of the prize will be considered by the award committee. The work submitted must be in English or German and the Coronelli Society reserves the right to publish, in appropriate form in one of its publications, either the work for which the Prize is awarded, or a shortened version if it exceeds fifteen typed pages. The deadline for the 1988/1989 prize is 15 January 1989. The prize for that year's award will be 7000 Austrian shillings. Submissions should be forwarded to the Society at Dominikanerbastei 21/28, A-1010 Vienna, Austria.

The **Hermon Dunlap Smith Center** has awarded a short-term fellowship to **Catherine Delano Smith** of the Department of Geography at Nottingham University. Professor Smith will come to The Newberry Library in the spring of 1989 to continue her research on cartographic signs.

Anne Godlewska, Assistant Professor of Geography at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, has recently been awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. This is a one-year, renewable to two-year, fellowship. Beginning in September, Professor Godlewska will be in Paris doing research on the history of French geography 1750-1850 in preparation for a book on *The Birth of Modern Geography.*

Publications and Catalogs Available

The Map Collector's Catalogue. Map Collector Publications has available at half-price its cataloging system for use by map collectors. The Catalogue consists of cross-reference sheets and can be purchased before 31 July 1988 for £9.48 plus £3.00 postage (UK) and £9.48 plus £4.00 elsewhere. (U.S. dollars accepted.) In addition, in conjunction with the International Map Collector's Society, Map Collector Publications announces publication of the 1988 edition of the **International Directory of Map Dealers.** The price of the Directory is £5.00 (dealers and booksellers receive a 35% discount on orders of five or more copies). For both publications, write to Map Collector Publications, Ltd., 48 High Street, Tring, Herts HP23 5BH, United Kingdom. **A spring list of books available from the Map Collector Publications** is also available upon request.

Recent Publications

Mapline has recently received for review the following three volumes in a new series, *HES Studies in the History of Cartography and Scientific Instruments,* from HES Publishers of Utrecht. Together they provide a remarkable resource concerning some rather neglected subjects.

Old Globes in the Netherlands/Peter van der Krogt. Utrecht: HES Uitgevers, 1984. 290 p., numerous plates. ISBN 90- 6194-234-9 (Order from HES Publishers/Uitgevers B.V., Oude Gracht 206, 3511 NR Utrecht, Postbus 129, 3500 AC Utrecht, The Netherlands, 95Hfl.)

> In the preface to this work, Peter van der Krogt explains how various other projects for listing globes have been put forward, most recently by the Internationale Coronelli-Gesellschaft. He lists the resulting inventories, and explains that his present compilation was undertaken as part of his graduate work at the University of Utrecht. The globes are listed by publisher, and many are illustrated; although it applies only to The Netherlands, this is a work which considerably extends our understanding of an often-neglected aspect of the history of cartography.

The Oldest Maps of The Netherlands/H.A.M. van der Heijden. Utrecht: HES Uitgevers, 1987. 228 p., numerous plates. ISBN 90-6194-224-1 (Order details as above; 95Hfl.)

> As the subtitle indicates, this is "an illustrated and annotated cartobibliography of the sixteenth-century maps of the Seventeen Provinces." The second half consists indeed of a list of such maps, but the first half contains narrative chapters of extraordinary interest, such as: the cartography of the Seventeen Provinces before unification; the official survey during the reign of Charles V; a typology of the maps of the Seventeen Provinces. We have here material on themes of great interest in the history of cartography, not before so fully available in English. The only weakness of the work seems to be that it assumes that all maps are printed maps, and so neglects the manuscript material, on which indeed the printed works are often based.

Marcel Destombes: Selected Contributions to the History of Cartography and Scientific Instruments/edited by Günter Schilder, Peter van der Krogt and Steven de Clercq. Utrecht: HES Uitgevers, 1987. 568 p., numerous plates. ISBN 90-6194-485-6 (Order details as above, 195Hfl.)

> Marcel Destombes was an extraordinary *savant,* in the same league as Bagrow or Dainville; all of them ranged very widely in the history of cartography. This collection of 35 articles by Destombes is enough to deter the boldest of emulators, for it ranges from globes to paintings, and in space all over the world and indeed into the heavens. Many of the articles appeared in very obscure periodicals, and will certainly be unknown to the majority of anglophone readers. This book is essential reading for historians of cartography, and an essential purchase for libraries wishing to remain current in this field.

La città nella storia d'Italia: Venezia/Giorgio Bellavitis e Giandomenico Romanelli. Roma-Bari: Editori Laterza, 1985. 290 p., numerous black-and-white plates of maps, photos, aerial photos, and drawings. ISBN 88-420-2578-X (Order from Editori Laterza, Via Dante 51, 1-70100 Bari, Italy.)

> This book is part of an excellent series on the history of Italian cities. Italians pride themselves on their cities and Italian scholars are perhaps the best practitioners of the history of urbanism, of which this volume is a classic example. Where it, and indeed the whole field of Italian urbanism, is of most use to the history of cartography is in its integration of maps in the study of a city's growth over time and an examination of the correlation between urban structure and geography. In its early

chapters, the book traces the physical development of the site of Venice long before the Roman Empire, the impact of Roman town planning on the city, and its growth as a maritime city. The majority of the book, however, is devoted to Venice from the time of Jacopo de Barbari's famous woodcut of the city to the present. The plan itself is assessed for how accurately it represented Venice as a whole in 1500 and for how accurate was its depiction of various parts of the city at the time. For the remainder of the book, the growth of Venice is assessed through its maps and views, geography, architecture, and urban plans. It is one of the themes of the book that there is a conjunction between the "image" of the city in the minds of its residents and its physical "reality"; that is, that the city as built is primarily a reflection of its image. To show this for Venice, the authors work back and forth between the collection of scenes, pictures, and maps (the "image") and the actual buildings, open spaces, the canals and bridges, and other constructions (the "reality") in the city from the high age of *La Serenissima* to the industrial city of the twentieth century.

La Cartographie, Reflet de l'Histoirel/François de Dainville, S.J. Geneva/Paris: Editions Slatkine, 1986. 485 p., many plates. (Order from Slatkine Reprints, Case 765, 1211 Genève 3, Switzerland.)

The Père de Dainville died in 1971, at the height of his activity, and this is a collection of his work, with introductions by Michel Mollat du Jourdin and Numa Broc. The articles range far in time, from the fifteenth century to the nineteenth, but they all revolve around French subjects, on many of which they are still the only work. Dainville had begun life as a historian of education, but as time went by he tackled a great variety of problems in the history of cartography, bringing to them a refreshing lucidity and a great mastery of the sources. Most of these articles come from relatively well-known periodicals, but there are some which will be lacking in even the largest North American libraries. *La Cartographie, Reflet de l'Histoire* is rather like the collected works of Marcel Destombes, reviewed elsewhere in this issue of *Mapline*; a book which every library seriously interested in the history of cartography ought to acquire.

The Map Catalog: Every Kind of Map and Chart on Earth and Even Some Above It/Joel Makower and Laura Bergheim. New York: Vintage Books, 1986. 252 p., many plates. ISBN 0-394-74614-7.

This is a sprightly manual both describing maps and explaining how to go about obtaining them. It is divided into four main sections: land maps, sky maps, water maps and map products, and each section is full of ideas about sources. This would be a good book not only for collectors, but also for map librarians in search of information for acquisitions.

The Map of London: from 1746 to the Present Day/Andrew Davies. B. T. Batsford Ltd., London, 1987. 106 p., many plates. ISBN 0-7134-5404-0 (Distributed by David & Charles, Inc., North Pomfret, VT 05053, $34.95, available July 15, 1988.)

In 1746, John Rocque, a London surveyor and printseller, published a 24-section map of London and its surrounding villages. Each section mapped the streets, fields, squares, and other distinguishing landmarks of the city in a manner intended for the everyday use of Londoners. Now Andrew Davies has reproduced this map in a way that enables us to trace the changing face of London. Each section of the Rocque map is printed faced with a contemporary map of the same area. A short commentary on the historical development of the section appears before each pair of maps; a brief description of London in the mid-eighteenth century, as well as a piece on the life of Rocque and the context of London mapmaking in his time begin the book. Anyone interested in mid-eighteenth century urban maps, or in tracing urban development over time, will find this book useful and enjoyable.

Calendar

19 June 1988

The 8th annual map fair of the International Map Collector's Society (IMCoS) will be held at the Forum Hotel, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dealers from several countries will be showing maps, atlases, prints, and other cartographic items; experts in various fields will be available to the public to identify and value maps. More details are available from Yasha Beresiner PRO, 1A Camden Walk, Islington, London, N1 8DY, telephone 01-354 2599.

7-11 August 1988

The 26th Annual Conference of Urban and Regional Information Systems will meet at the Los Angeles Hilton, Los Angeles, CA. The theme of the meeting will be "Mapping the Future." For information contact URISA, 319 C Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

12-15 October 1988

The annual meeting of the North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) will take place in Denver CO. Anyone interested in presenting a paper must submit a title and abstract of no more than 300 words by 1 July 1988. Among the suggested topics for papers are Canadian Cartography, Historical Cartography, Cognitive Mapping, Geographic Information Systems, Mapping of the West, Maps and Children, Cartography Software for Regional Planners. For further information about the meeting and other topics contact Juan José Valdés, NACIS Program Chair, Geographic Society, 1600 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, 202/775-7873.

13-15 October 1988

The Society for the History of Discoveries will hold its annual meeting at the James Ford Bell Library, University of Minnesota. For inquiries, contact Dr. Sanford H. Bederman. Department of Geography, Georgia State University, University Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303.

10-12 November 1988

The ninth series of Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr. Lectures in the History of Cartography will be held at The Newberry Library. The title of this series is "The Estate Plan in the Old and New Worlds." For information, contact the Smith Center at the Library.

2-3 December 1988

The Maine Humanities Council is sponsoring a conference titled "The Land of Norumbega: A Multidisciplinary Conference on the Exploration and Settlement of Maine and the Northeast." The conference will be held in Portland, Maine and will coincide with a cartography exhibit at the Portland Museum of Art. Details may be had from the Maine Humanities Council, P. O. Box 7202, Portland, ME 04112, 207/773-5051.

24-29 June 1989

The Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT) of the American Library Association will hold its next annual conference in Dallas, Texas. (See ***Briefly Noted.***)

25 June-1 July 1989

The 13th International Conference on the History of Cartography takes place in Amsterdam, Leiden, and The Hague in The Netherlands. For further information, contact the Organizing Committee for the History of Cartography Conference, %Jan Werner, Universiteits bibliotheek van Amsterdam, P. O. Box 19185, 1000 GD Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

17-24 August 1989

Budapest, Hungary will be the site of the 14th International Cartographic Conference of the International Cartographic Association (ICA). Further details and registration forms may be obtained from Conference Secretary, Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing, H-1373 Budapest, POB 546, Hungary. (See also ***Briefly Noted.***)